



# Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training

1600 University Avenue, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55104  
Main: (651) 643-3060 | [www.post.state.mn.us](http://www.post.state.mn.us)

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## Ensuring Police Excellence and Improving Community Relations Advisory Council

### MEETING AGENDA

1600 University Avenue, Suite 200

Saint Paul, Minnesota

December 12, 2022 9:00am - 10:30am

This meeting will be held in person at the POST Board Offices

1. Call to Order
  2. Approval of the Agenda **ACTION**
  3. Approval of the October 10, 2022 minutes **ACTION**
  4. Follow up/updates:
    - POST Board Training committee will review request/need for training on out of home placements of indigenous children
    - DNA collection from juveniles – See agenda item 5.
  5. EPEICR Advisory Council directed by POST Board to research issue further  
**POSSIBLE ACTION**
    - Create working group
    - Identify chair
    - Establish Timeline
    - Report to POST Board
  6. Regional listening session beginning in spring – Duluth first (Mr. Crawford to host); two sessions each in metro (one urban, one suburban); three other sessions outstate. Hosts needed in each location.
  7. Adjournment
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#### Minn. Stat. § 626.8435 *ENSURING POLICE EXCELLENCE AND IMPROVING COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL*

(a) The purpose of the council is to assist the board in maintaining policies and regulating peace officers in a manner that ensures the protection of civil and human rights. The council shall provide for citizen involvement in policing policies, regulations, and supervision. The council shall advance policies and reforms that promote positive interactions between peace officers and the community.



## Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training

### **Ensuring Police Excellence and Improving Community Relations Advisory Council October 10, 2022 9:00am**

*This meeting was held online via Teams due to the COVID-19 emergency.*

#### **Members Present:**

Chair Eric Won, Biiftuu Adam, Carl Crawford, Cathy Spann, Dave Titus, Erik Misselt, Julio Zelaya, Kaohly Her, Nikki Engel, Paul Novotny, Sue Abderholden and Terry Stier.

#### **Members Absent:**

Anne Haines Holy Eagle, Andrew Matthews and Sean Deringer.

#### **Staff Present:**

Rebecca Gaspard and Sarah Zastrow.

#### **Others Present:**

Jill Kehaulani Esch, Esq, Office of Ombudsperson for American Indian Families  
Tanya Long, Community Specific Board for American Indian Families  
Commissioner David Singleton

#### **Call to Order:**

Chair Won called the meeting to order on October 10, 2022 at 9:00 am.

#### **Approval of the Agenda:** Chair Won asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

- **Motion:** Mr. Crawford made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Misselt seconded the motion. The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

#### **Approval of the August 1, 2022 Minutes:**

- **Motion:** Ms. Abderholden made a motion to approve the August 1, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Crawford seconded the motion. The motion passed via unanimous voice vote.

## **Review of Advisory Council authorization, Minnesota Statutes Section 626.8435:**

Chair Won asked Ms. Her to read Minnesota Statutes Section 626.8435 The Purpose of the Council.

Ms Her read Minnesota Statutes Section 626.8435:

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## **Presentations:**

### **Office of Ombudsperson for American Indian Families: Out-of-Home Placements:**

Ms. Esch spoke about her being appointed the Ombudsperson for American Indian Families in 2013. She noted last year the legislature created a new office, the Office of Ombudsperson for American Indian Families and is the first independent state agency of its kind in the nation. Ms. Esch then introduced Ms. Long as being with the American Indian Community-Specific Board. She noted that Ms. Long has a lot of knowledge on what has been happening in regards to out-of-home placements for children. Ms. Esch then spoke about her office recommending the Board to have law enforcement ask the family at the time that the children are being removed two questions:

1. Whether the child is tribally affiliated and if the answer is yes,
2. Which tribe or tribes

She also noted that Minnesota is number one in the nation for the removal of American Indian children from their homes. Ms. Esch then asked Ms. Long to speak.

Ms. Long introduced herself as being a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and an ICWA family advocate for over 25 years. She said that there has been discussion on the legislative audit report on law enforcement training and would like to know if the training for child protection removal should start here or with the DHS work group. Ms. Long suggested there be some collaboration between DHS and POST. She advised that the removal of the children is traumatic for them, as they do not have a family member with them. A doctor examines the child, whom they do not know, and is unfamiliar with the exam process. Then the child is placed in foster care until they are placed somewhere with people they do not know. If the two questions are asked first, before the officer removes the child from the home, then the child could be with their family. She asked the council to review the chart that shows that American Indian children are removed from their homes on a much larger scale than other ethnicities

Chair Won spoke about this council does not make policy actions, but that this will be brought to the Board as an agenda item to be discussed. Much discussion ensued.

- **Motion:** Mr. Misselt made a motion to recommend to the POST Board that they consider working with the Ombudsperson for American Indian Families and whomever they deem to be a part of it to modify the learning objectives that POST has for pre-service education to incorporate this information. Mr. Crawford seconded the motion. Motion passed via unanimous voice vote.

## **Reserve Officers Association: Career Pathways for Reserve Officers:**

Commissioner David Singleton introduced himself as being appointed the Provisional Chairman of the Minnesota Police Reserve Officers Association (MPROA) and was tasked with the responsibility of establishing a Provisional Executive Authority to reorganize the MPROA. He spoke about wanting reserve officers the ability to receive credit towards licensing from the work they do as a reserve officer.

Discussion then ensued on the qualifications to become a reserve officer. Mr. Titus spoke about needing to know what the “ask” is and what would this look like before it can be brought to the Board for consideration. Chair Won requested that Mr. Singleton go back to his board to draft a more concrete proposal for them to bring back to this council for consideration.

#### **Unity Community Mediation Team: DNA Collection from Minors:**

Al Flowers introduced himself as the Co-Chair for the Young People’s Task Force. He also introduced Cynthia Wilson with the NAACP Chapter President who was also present for this meeting. He began speaking on the DNA collection from minors and provided a summary of a situation. He would like the council to form a working group to develop a policy for officers to have a warrant before they are able to collect DNA from minors. Mr. Flowers and Ms. Wilson plan to go to legislature once the policy has been written.

- **Motion:** Mr. Crawford made a motion for the POST Board to support and form a working group with this organization to look further into the DNA collection of juveniles. Mr. Steir seconded the motion. Motion passed via unanimous voice vote.

#### **Round Table:**

- Proposal: Statewide Listening Session Series, Fall – Southern Minnesota, possibly Rochester (led by Advisory Council, POST Board members may attend).

Chair Won spoke about speaking with Chair McCarthy on scheduling listening sessions around the state. He would like to start in Rochester. He plans to advertise that the council is there to listen to residents, business owners and law enforcement to get a feel for public safety in different parts of the state.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 10:31 am.